



VERMONT VETERANS' HOME

VOLUME 7, ISSUE 4

APRIL 2016

The BUZZ WORD



Music is The Best Form of Magic
—Marilyn Manson

THE BUZZ WORD

Three ways for you to receive the Vermont Veterans' Home monthly newsletter:

- ♦ Vermont Veterans' Home website:
www.vvh.vermont.gov

Click on About Our Home

Click on Newsletters

- ♦ Email
- ♦ Mailing List

Please contact:

The Buzz Word Editor
Vermont Veterans' Home
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Bennington, VT 05201

(802) 447-6510

Email: Barbara.Fitzgerald@vermont.gov

*Honoring
Those Who Have
Served*

DONATION INFORMATION

Your donations are gratefully accepted. Please make check out to Vermont Veterans' Home:

**Vermont Veterans' Home
Business Office
325 North Street
Bennington, VT 05201**

Please indicate to which fund(s) you are donating:

Members Assistance:

Directly to Veterans/Members
Furniture
Haircuts
Clothing
Other personal needs

Namaste Program Fund:

Oils for relaxation
Supplies
Equipment

Unrestricted Fund:

Facility equipment
Large purchase

Activities Fund:

Entertainment

Music & Memory Fund:

iPods
Headphones
iTunes cards

QAPI CORNER

By: Karen Divis
Quality Assurance Nurse



Quality Assurance Performance Improvement

How do we know what needs to be changed or what is not working? We have many different tracking systems, looking at best practice, listening to our veterans, members, families & staff.

We then can form a PIP (Performance Improvement Project) that involves many departments and our Veterans, Members and their families. We identify the root of the issue and then identify and develop interventions, trial them, audit the results and bring it to the entire facility if it solves the problem. Parts of this we all do in our every day lives: How can I solve this problem? And then see if it works.



Chaplain's Corner...



Howdy Folks,

I thought it would be interesting to research and share some information about Jesus' last words spoken from the cross. He spoke several words in seven different instances which are categorized here:

- The first word; **forgiveness**; Luke 23:34; "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they are doing."
- The second word; **salvation**; Luke 23:43; "I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise."
- The third word; **affection**; John 19:26&27; "Woman, behold your son, Disciple, behold your mother."
- The forth word; **anguish**; Matthew; "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"
- The fifth word; **suffering**; John 19:28; "I am thirsty."
- The sixth word; **victory**; John 19:30 "It's finished."
- The seventh word; **commitment**; Luke 23:46; "Father, into your hands, I commit my spirit."

We need to imagine the pain and agony Jesus was experiencing on the cross. It was the final step in his fulfilling of the Scriptures. It should also remind us of John 3:16 which we all know so well, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life."

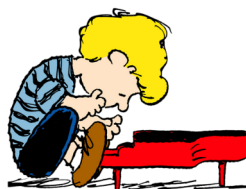
Let us praise God for the great sacrifice he made for each of us. It should also compel us to be thankful for Jesus' life, death and resurrection.

Happy Easter Everyone!

God Bless,
Ken Coonradt, Chaplain



Music By The Piano With The Veterans' Choir





VERMONT VETERANS' HOME

Fulfilling the Promise

**325 North Street
Bennington, VT 05201**

The Vermont Veterans' Home was established in Bennington in 1884. It is governed by a Board of Trustees appointed by the Governor. The VVH offers a complete range of specialized care services for its residents. VVH goals focus on insuring the dignity, independence, and the highest possible care and quality of life for each resident.

VVH is licensed to meet all levels of care for its residents and the VVH's departments and staff work together to provide those levels of care.

For any Further Questions Please Contact:

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<http://vvh.vermont.gov>

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From the Administrator...
Melissa Jackson

With the warmer weather the Veterans and Members are spending more time outside. I ask that you be mindful of the speed limit on the property, 15 miles per hour. We will be installing speed bumps in the near future to provide a gentle reminder of the speed limit. Please be especially observant when passing parked cars, as Veterans, Staff and Visitors have had some near misses as they stepped out into the driveway.

March 22nd to the 24th we had our annual VA Survey. During this survey a team of 8 individuals reviewed all of the Home's systems and they interviewed Veterans, Members, Staff and family members. At the end of the three days they found no deficiencies and had no recommendations for improvement. This is our 2nd year in a row of achieving a deficiency free VA survey and this achievement is a direct reflection of the hard work and dedication of the VVH staff.

Also on March 24th we achieved a 5 Star rating from CMS. This is the highest rating a nursing facility can achieve. We are the only home in Bennington County and 1 of 11 statewide to have this designation. More information on the CMS 5 Star system can be found at Medicare.gov under the Nursing Home Compare option.

Take Care,

Melissa



Veterans Homes Meet In Washington D.C.

By Veteran, Mike Haverstock

In early March, leaders of 153 state supported Veterans' Homes attended the National Association of State Veterans Home's Annual Winter Conference in Alexandria, VA, just outside Washington D.C.

The get-together was attended by three individuals from the Vermont Veterans' Home who participated in meetings with VA representatives regarding approval of Domiciliary and adult daycare regulations.



Melissa Jackson, CEO, showing Congressman Welch the Veterans' Home view book.



Melissa Jackson, CEO briefing NASVH at the National convention in D.C.



Melissa Jackson, CEO, presenting Senator Leahy with a Vermont Veterans' Home hat.

Donations

On behalf of the Veterans/Members, we sincerely thank the following for their generous donations.

Jill Thompson
Paul Lewis—The Bennington Bookstore
Dianne Forrest
Paul and Virginia Leon
Frank Ryan
Carol Clevenger
Margaret Whalen
Norshaft Lions Club
Daughter's of Isabella-Circle 1401
Arlington American Legion Auxiliary 69
Bennington County Beekeepers Club
Red Mountain Chapter 41 OES

In Memory of Nancy Roberto
Dolores Mahlmann

In Memory of Ralph Elwell
VFW Post 1332

In Memory of Beatrice Perry
Laurie Noyes

In Memory of Shirley Decker
Ann Fair

In Memory of Richard Bush
Ann Fair
Catherine Greenwald
Marcia Partenope

In Memory of Don Hicks
Richard Heekin



BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

Tuesdays at 2:30 pm

Located in the Chapel at the Vermont Veterans' Home

For adults living with loss due to a death. Find comfort, coping skills and support Confidentiality is always respected. No fee to attend this group.

CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP

Tuesday, April 19, 2016 at 1:00-2:00

A. Luke Crispe Room

If you have questions, please contact: Bill MacMillan at 802-447-6524

ALS SUPPORT GROUP

***Has been postponed until Spring
Namaste Room on American Way**

Please contact Christina Cosgrove, 802-447-2792, for more information.



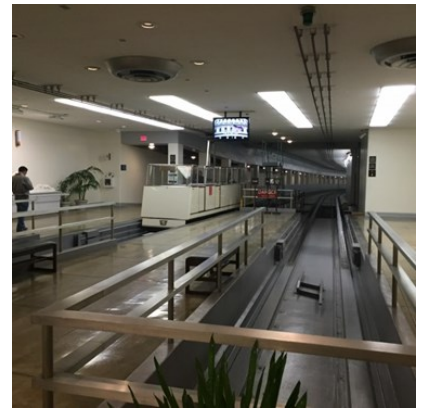
*From Deputy Administrator...
Colonel Al Faxon*



During the first week in March the Boss and I attended the National Association of State Veterans' Homes Conference in Washington DC. A great event as always...we had successful in-calls with the Offices of both Vermont Senators and solo Congressman.....

We were also able to ride the tram system that travels beneath the Capital, House, and Senate Buildings. I was not aware this underground transportation system even existed....it looks to be straight out of a James Bond movie!

Our recent outstanding VA Survey (inspection) and rating as a Five Star Facility only occurred because of the superb staff we have working at the Vermont Veterans' Home. We are very proud of your accomplishments and most importantly, for making this a Home for Vermont's Heroes!



S/F
AF

Donation from the Elks



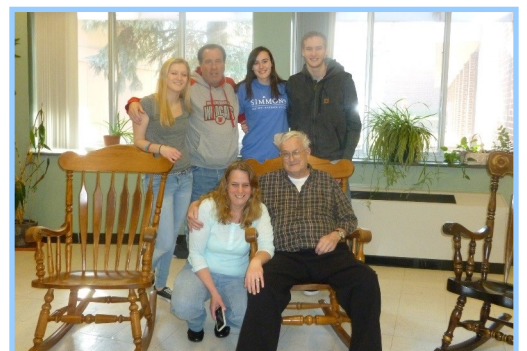
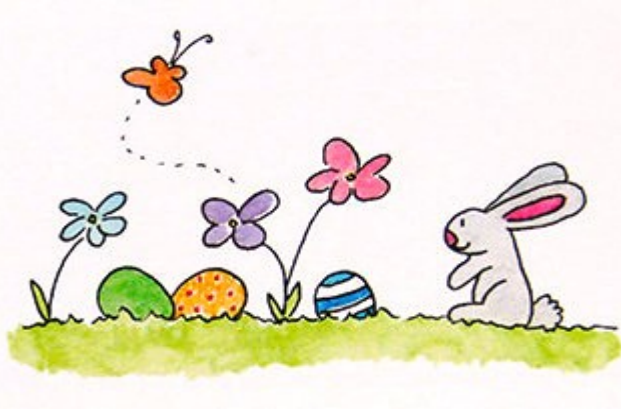
L to R: Charlie Boyle; Al Faxon, COO; Arthur Charron and Melissa Jackson, CEO.

With Congressman Welch in DC



L to R: Col. Joseph Krawczyk, President of the Home's Board of Trustees; Congressman Peter Welch; Melissa Jackson, CEO and Col. Al Faxon, COO.

EASTER SUNDAY WITH FAMILY





AFTERNOON MUSIC WITH A VISIT FROM A BUNNY



National I Matter You Matter Day



March 28th was the Fifth Annual Worldwide I Matter, You Matter Day. Sally Gibney, Founder and President of You Are Never Alone Foundation, made a visit to the Home and passed out some of her famous coins and cards reminding Veterans, Member and staff that we all matter.

For more information about Sally's company go to:
youareneveralonefoundation.org

Donation From the Norshaft Lions Club



L to R: Col. Al Faxon, COO; Doug Crossman; Paul Rice and Melissa Jackson, CEO. The Norshaft Lions Club donated a new XA 30 Camcorder with accessories.

F.Y.I.

Mark Your Calendars

Elk's Steak Dinner
Sunday, May 1, 2016
at 12:00 PM

Fishing Derby
Sunday, June 26, 2016
at 10:00 AM

The Eagles Concert Band
Wednesday, July 6, 2016
at 6:30 PM

VFW PICNIC
Sunday, July 10, 2016
at 12:00 PM

**The Vermont Veterans' Home
And
State Line Car Club
Invites you to their**

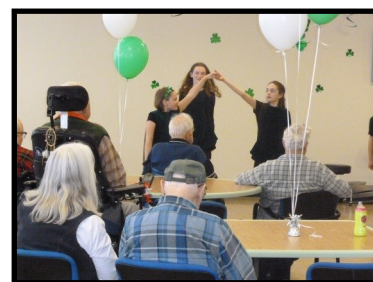
Father's Day Car Show

*** June 18, 2016
10:00 AM to 2:00 PM
Rain Date
June 19, 2016**

***Please take note of the date. This year it is going to be held the Saturday before Father's Day—Unless it has to be postponed.**



Hubbard Hall Irish Step Dancers



Vermont Veterans' Home Board of Trustee Member Reappointed



Arthur Charron was administer the Oath of Office by Col. Al Faxon, COO, reappointing him for another term. Art has been an active member of the Board since May 2002 and has been a valuable asset to the Home. He shows "Movies with Art" for the Veterans on Wednesday nights, helps organize Las Vegas Day, the fishing derbies at Charron Pond and Veterans' steak dinners at the ELK's.



LAS VEGAS DAY

